

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 /088 W

-----040442Z 057168 /12

R 031532Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8221

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA POUCH

AMEMBASSY CAPETOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION NATO

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CINCEUR

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CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI, UR, XJ

SUBJECT: TASS STATEMENT ON RHODESIAN ATTACK ON MOZAMBIQUE

REF: MOSCOW A-114 NOTAL

SUMMARY: AUTHORITATIVE TASS STATEMENT ON RHODESIAN ATTACK  
AGAINST TERRITORY OF MOZAMBIQUE WARNS OF CONSEQUENCES, HINTS

AT SIGNIFICANCE OF SOVIET-MOZAMBIQUE FRIENDSHIP TREATY,  
AND CRITICIZES WESTERN COUNTRIES (ESPECIALLY UK) FOR POLICIES

TOWARD RHODESIA. AT SAME TIME CENTRAL PRESS CARRIED  
REPORT ON SUCCESS OF MOZAMBIQUE FORCES IN REPELLING

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INVADERS. END SUMMARY.

1. JUNE 3 PRAVDA AND KZ CARRY TASS STATEMENT ON  
RHODESIAN MILITARY INCURSION INTO MOZAMBIQUE. SIGNIFICANT  
POINTS MADE IN STATEMENT ARE:

--ATTACKS CAN HAVE SERIOUS INTERNATIONAL CONSE-  
QUENCES. THERE IS GREAT INDIGNATION IN SOVIET UNION

OVER NEWS OF INVASION OF MOZAMBIQUE, A COUNTRY WITH WHICH SOVIET UNION RECENTLY CONCLUDED FRIENDSHIP TREATY;  
--TASS IS AUTHORIZED TO STATE THAT FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CONSEQUENCES OF INVASION MUST BE BORNE BY RACIST REGIMES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA AND THEIR PROTECTORS;  
--ATTACKS HAVE COME AT SAME TIME AS SOME WESTERN STATES ARE CARRYING OUT "ENDLESS" NEGOTIATIONS WITH SMITH REGIME WHICH TO ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES SHIELDS AND LEGALIZES THAT REGIME. STATEMENT OF BRITISH GOVERNMENT THAT UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL IT USE FORCE AGAINST SMITH REGIME REPRESENTS DIRECT ENCOURAGEMENT TO REGIME TO ATTACK NEIGHBORING STATES AND PERSECUTE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE EVEN MORE.

2. COMMENT: IN THE SCALE OF SOVIET SIGNALS, A TASS "STATEMENT" IS AUTHORITATIVE, ALTHOUGH LESS SO THAN ONE BY PRAVDA OR A STATEMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT. SOVIETS PROBABLY ARE GENUINELY CONCERNED OVER RHODESIAN CROSS BORDER ATTACK SINCE IT WILL, BOTH DIRECTLY AND INDIRECTLY, INCREASE PRESSURE ON THEM TO ESCALATE THEIR MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO ZIMBABWE LIBERATION MOVEMENT FORCES AND REGULAR FORCES OF MOZAMBIQUE. WITH REGARD TO LATTER, WORKING LEVEL SOVIET MFA CONTACTS HAVE REMINDED US IN PAST THAT MILITARY PROVISIONS OF SOVIET FRIENDSHIP TREATIES MAY BE IMPLEMENTED IF EXTERNAL THREAT TO COUNTRIES INVOLVED INCREASES (REF AIRGRAM).

3. ON OTHER HAND, IT IS INTERESTING THAT TASS STATEMENT WAS PUBLISHED ONLY AS ACTUAL DANGER RECEDED (ACCORDING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO WIRELESS FILE ACCOUNT OF TROOP MOVEMENTS). THIS POINT WAS IMPLICITLY BROUGHT HOME TO SOVIET READER BY TASS MAPUTO REPORT IN BOTH PRAVDA AND KZ ON STATEMENT BY REPRESENTATIVE OF GENERAL STAFF OF MOZAMBIQUE ARMED FORCES THAT MOZAMBIQUE FORCES ARE IN COMPLETE CONTROL OF REGION WHICH HAD BEEN ATTACKED BY SMITH REGIME.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009